amendments and remarks filed with a corresponding Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-10.

Please amend the following claim to appear as follows:

16. A system for extending functionality of a class object, comprising:

a processing unit;

a system memory in communication with the processing unit via a system bus;

a computer-readable medium in communication with the processing unit via the system bus; and

an extensible object model executed from the computer-readable medium by the processing unit, wherein the extensible object model causes the processing unit to create an extension object from an extension package when a requested functionality is not inherent in the class object, and wherein the extension object extends the class object to provide the requested functionality.

Please add the following claims as follows:

29. A method for extending functionality of a class object in a run-time environment, comprising:

receiving a request from an application for functionality that is not inherent in the class object;

determining if the functionality is available in a first extension object;

obtaining an extension package having computer-executable instructions associated with the extension object functionality, wherein the extension package proffers an extension provider object when the functionality is requested;

specifying parameters to the extension provider object to create a second extension object; and

directing the request to the second extension object.

30. The method of claim 29, further comprising registering the extension package in an extension database.

31. The method of claim 29, further comprising storing the extension package in an extension database.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising searching for an entry associated with the functionality in the extension database to determine if the functionality is available in the extension object.

33. The method of claim 29, further comprising creating the second extension object when the extended functionality is first referenced, and locating the second extension object when the extended functionality is subsequently referenced.

34. A method for extending functionality of a class object in a run-time environment, comprising:

receiving a request from an application for functionality that is not inherent in the class object;

determining if the functionality is available in a first extension object; and

directing the request to the functionality in a second extension object, when the functionality is not available in the first extension object.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising obtaining an extension package having computer-executable instructions associated with the extension object functionality.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising storing the extension package in an extension database.

37. The method of claim 35, further comprising registering the extension package in an extension database.

38. The method of claim 34, wherein the extension package proffers an extension provider object when the functionality is requested.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein the extension provider object creates the extension object.

40. The method of claim 34, further comprising searching for an entry associated with the functionality in an extension database.

41. The method of claim 34, further comprising creating the second extension object when the extended functionality is first referenced,

and locating the second extension object when the extended functionality is subsequently referenced.

42. A system for extending functionality of a class object, comprising:

a processing unit;

a system memory in communication with the processing unit via a system bus;

a computer-readable medium in communication with the processing unit via the system bus;

an extensible object model executed from the computer-readable medium by the processing unit, wherein the extensible object model creates an extension object from an extension package when a requested functionality is not inherent in the class object, and wherein the extension object extends the class object to provide the requested functionality.

43. The system of claim 42, wherein information about the extension package is stored in an extension database.

44. A method for extending functionality of a class object, comprising:

invoking a functionality that is not inherent in the class object;

determining if the invoked functionality is available in a first extension object;

creating a second extension object when the invoked functionality is not available in the first extension object; and

directing the invocation to the extension object.